

**MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS
WESTERN DISTRICT**

**COMPLETE TITLE OF CASE:
STATE OF MISSOURI**

**v.
ANTHONY J. WATSON**

RESPONDENT,

APPELLANT.

**DOCKET NUMBER WD79005
MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS
WESTERN DISTRICT**

DATE: February 28, 2017

Appeal From:

Jackson County Circuit Court
The Honorable Jack R. Grate, Judge

Appellate Judges:

Division Two: Cynthia L. Martin, Presiding Judge, Lisa White Hardwick, Judge and Alok Ahuja, Judge

Attorneys:

Evan J. Buchheim, Jefferson City, MO, for respondent.

Susan L. Hogan, Kansas City, MO, for appellant.

MISSOURI APPELLATE COURT OPINION SUMMARY

**MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS
WESTERN DISTRICT**

STATE OF MISSOURI,

RESPONDENT,

v.

ANTHONY J. WATSON,

APPELLANT.

No. WD79005

Jackson County

Before Division Two: Cynthia L. Martin, Presiding Judge, Lisa White Hardwick, Judge and Alok Ahuja, Judge

Watson appeals his conviction of statutory sodomy in the first degree following a jury trial. Watson argues that the verdict director violated his right to a unanimous jury verdict because it failed to specify a particular incident of sodomy after the State presented evidence of multiple acts of sodomy.

AFFIRM.

Division Two holds: This is a multiple acts case because multiple, distinct incidents in evidence could have served as the basis for the crime charged. The State sufficiently protected Watson's right to a unanimous jury verdict by submitting a particular act to support the charge. The evidence presented did not reference multiple acts of the specific conduct submitted in the verdict director, and thus more specificity in the verdict director was not necessary to ensure juror unanimity.

Opinion by Cynthia L. Martin, Judge

February 28, 2017

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